



THEY'LL BE OVER, GEORGE. HIMSELF AND DOZENS MORE

Weber and Fields, Maude
Adams, Elsie Ferguson
to Join A.E.F.

NO, NOT IN THE MOVIES!

Real Flesh and Blood American
Stars Will Tour Y.M.C.A.
Hut Circuit

BILLIE BURKE? OF COURSE

Jim Corbett!—Yes—John Drew?—Li-
lian Russell!—Sure—Nobody's
Been Left Out

Elsie Janis came and saw and con-
quered and abled home to her brothers
and sisters of the stage to come on over
or they'd never know what they had
missed. And they are coming, the
brightest stars in the American theat-
rical firmament.

Maude Adams, George Cohan, Jimmy
Powers, Marguerite Clark, Weber and
Fields, Marie Dora, Elsie Ferguson,
Jack Barrymore—they have one and all
enlisted for a tour in the most honor-
able circuit any booking office can offer
a player these days—the Y.M.C.A.
huts of France.

This advance of the players is the re-
sult of the tour of investigation made
last fall by Winthrop Ames and E. H.
Sohrner. When they got back they
formed the "Americans Over There The-
ater League," made the irrepressible
Cohan a leading spirit of it, and laid
plans to send among the A.E.F. some
75 or 80 small companies. They will
make the most of those who, like Elsie
Janis, need no properties or assistants
in furnishing a whole evening's enter-
tainment.

To Be Heard in Every Camp

The players will be called upon to
play the A.E.F. for tens of weeks, and
where from ten to 20 weeks, and no visit
will be so brief that the actor will not
have a hearing in every camp before he
sets sail for home and the dear old box-
office. In particular, comedians are
wanted. The motto of the "Americans
Over There Theater League" might well
be "The Merrier the More."
Billie Burke is coming. Flo Ziegfeld
(her husband) has made up his mind to
do without her for three months.
Willie Collier is coming. He says he
will head a company or carry a spear
or do anything so long as they let him
come.

June Cow (they used to call her Cry-
ing Jane) has dried those tears and will
try to qualify.

John Drew, Otis Skinner, Julia Mar-
lowe, Lillian Russell, Ruth Chatterton,
Frances Starr, Tom Wise, James J.
Corbett—these are only a few of the
recruits.

Volunteers 4,000 Strong
Some 4,000 vaudeville players have
volunteered for your amusement. The
Lambis, the Friars, the Players and
other stage associations have offered to
form companies and send them over the
top in a body. It is simply a question
of how many we want and how much
room there is in the huts.
The vanguard will arrive next month.
Before long, the Yanks resting up be-
tween adventures in the trenches may
look upon the loveliness of Elsie Fer-
guson, watch Lew Fields at his ancient
task of choking Joe Weber to death and
listen while the author of "Over There"
sings his own ditty through his own
nose.

In order that they may move among
us unmolested, the military nummers
will wear Y.M.C.A. uniforms. Times
Square is reliably reported as all agog
at the thought of Willie Collier in a
Y.M.C.A. uniform. Or for that matter,
George Cohan. Or Jim Corbett.
Mr. Ames and Mr. Sohrner further
recommended that as the soldiers en-
joyed their own shows better than any
other kind, every support be given to
company productions, and soon the
Y.M.C.A. will have at every A.E.F.
center a man who can help put on
shows and a good stock of costumes,
wigs, face paint, burnt cork, comedy
teeth, scenery, one-act farces and other
handy aids to amateur dramatics.

GARY SYSTEM DROPPED

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—This city has
abolished the Gary school system, so-
called, of vocational education with
hardly a ripple.
The abolition had been accepted all
along as a foregone conclusion, inas-
much as the system, introduced during
the Mitchell administration, was one of
the things most violently attacked by
Mayor Hylan and the press that sup-
ported him during last fall's mayoralty
campaign.

The Gary system had its origin in the
public schools of Gary, Ind., and was
transported to New York and tried out
in a few of the city schools during the
past four years. It had as advocates
several of the more prominent educa-
tors connected with the work of the
Rockefeller Foundation.

"HONOR TO THEIR VALOR," SAYS FRANCE'S PREMIER OF AMERICANS

To THE STARS AND STRIPES:—

Last September, I said to several of your magnificent soldiers whose guest I was: "You are going to be called upon to make a great effort and to fulfill it, perhaps, at the cost of your life. We can feel only gratitude and friendship for you who have come from afar to help us."

Today we have seen them at their task. Men who served with impassioned zeal the democratic ideal we want to save, they are worthy of their great forbears. Honor to their valor.

HOW YOU MAY WIN OUR ARMY'S DECORATIONS

In response to a flood of inquiries, G.I.Q. has issued a bulletin which interprets the distinction between the medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal and which illustrates by examples the high standards of gallantry and service which have been set for these awards. The bulletin instructs all concerned in the proper method of recommendations and in the ceremony to be held when the awards are presented.

The big award is the Medal of Honor, closest American cousin of the celebrated V.C., which is the highest honor that can come to a British soldier. The D.S.C. and the Distinguished Service Medal are open to the officers and enlisted men of our Allies. Not so the Medal of Honor, which is for Americans only.

To deserve the Medal of Honor—which is an award for gallantry in action—a soldier must perform some deed of most distinguished personal bravery and self-sacrifice, an uncommonly hazardous adventure conspicuously enough to single him out above all his comrades, a deed so clearly above and beyond all call of duty that no one could justly blame him for leaving it undone.

The Highest Valor

As a guide for commanders who may wish to recom-
mend men for the Medal of Honor, some typical cases
for which similar awards have been made in the Armies
of our Allies are given in the bulletin. Here are two of
them:—

Lieutenant — took command of his own and another
company when both had suffered severely, and with
great dash and success led them forward in attack
under heavy machine gun fire. Seeing the battalion on
his right held up by machine gun fire, he led a pla-
toon to its help. Upon he went on with only two men
to a dugout. Leaving the men on top, he entered the
dugout alone and brought up 14 prisoners.

Then he proceeded with his two men to another dug-
out which, with rifle and machine gun fire and bombs,
had been holding up the attack. This dugout was
reached and the crew was either killed or captured and
the machine gun taken.

The lieutenant was then attacked from another dugout
by 15 of the enemy under an officer, and one of his men
was killed and the other wounded. Undaunted still,
Lieutenant — seized a rifle and shot no fewer than
five of the enemy. Then, using another as a shield, he
forced most of the survivors to surrender.

Such was the quickness, courage and resourcefulness
of this young officer that he cleared several other dug-
outs alone or with one man, taking in all about 50 pris-
oners. He then fully consolidated his position and per-
sonally waded his front under heavy close range sniping
in broad daylight when all others had failed to do so.

Private — was a stretcher bearer, and for three days
and nights he strove unceasingly to bring the wounded
into safety, dressing them and getting them food and
water. He worked in an area which was swept by shell,
machine gun and rifle fire, and several times he was
knocked down and partially buried by enemy shells.

He rescued a comrade who had been blinded and was
struggling about ahead of their trench in full view of
the enemy, who were sniping at him. He brought in
another comrade under heavy shell fire, and on a third
occasion he brought in a wounded man "under" very
heavy enemy fire of every description. Neither fire nor
exhaustion deterred him from assisting in his humane
work.

How D.S.C. Will Be Awarded

Like the Medal of Honor, the D.S.C. is an award for
gallantry in action. It may be won by any one who
may distinguish himself or herself by extraordinary
heroism in connection with military operations against
an armed enemy of the United States. It may recognize
any such deed performed since April 6, 1917, the day
our country went to war with Germany. It is for great
gallantry—but not quite great enough to deserve the
Medal of Honor.

As with the Medal of Honor, the bulletin illustrates
the standard of the D.S.C. with several cases, of which
two are given here:

Lieutenant — gave proof of unhesitating devotion

and energy by leading his platoon to the assault, capturing numerous pris-
oners and presiding over the organization of a captured post in disregard
of all danger.

While charged with the support and protection of a reconnaissance within
the enemy's lines, he gave the best example of calmness, decision and courage
under a particularly intense machine gun fire. Wounded in this action, he
refused to let himself be evacuated and remained in command over his pla-
toon.

Private —, an automatic rifleman of great bravery, remained alone at his
post during a hostile attack, firing continuously until his gun was broken by
a bullet.

Having no weapon with which to resist further and his lieutenant having



The Distinguished Service Cross, of bronze, full size. Obverse: On each
arm of cross an oak leaf with a star at the stem; on scroll beneath eagle
the words "E Pluribus Unum." Reverse: Laurel wreath transversed by orna-
mental staff and crossed by panel inscribed, "For Valor." Ribbon of royal
blue, edged with stripes of white and red.

been badly wounded by his side, he put the latter upon his back and carried
him in the open over shell-ploved ground under a heavy barrage fire to a
first-aid post. He immediately rejoined the remainder of his company still
in line.

Rules Governing D.S.M.

The Distinguished Service Medal may be awarded to any one who distin-
guishes himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service to the Gov-
ernment in a duty of great responsibility in time of war or in connection
with operations against an armed enemy of the United States.

The Medal of Honor and the D.S.C. are for gallantry in action, the Dis-
tinguished Service Medal may be given for service involving no participation
in action and no question of bravery. The Distinguished Service Medal might
be awarded to any one fulfilling to admiration a duty of great responsibility
far behind the lines or even back home in the States.

It may be awarded to persons serving at posts far removed from the theater
of operations. It may be awarded to commanders or to members of their staff
who give exceptionally capable performances of duty in responsible positions
which are none the less trying and difficult because they call for no gallantry
in action and hold their man well beyond range of the enemy's guns.

With the Distinguished Service Medal, our Army has for the first time in
its history an award for the strategist, for the man who plans. The work of
such a soldier as General Pershing would never permit him to be a candidate for
the Medal of Honor or the D.S.C. But such as he could win the Distinguished
Service Medal.

Recommendations for Awards

Recommendations for any of these awards are to be made by the divi-
sion commander, who will forward his recommendations to the Commander.

in-Chief, A.E.F. These recommendations will be treated
as strictly confidential both by the division com-
mander and G.H.Q. This, however, does not prevent
commanders from expressing, in orders or otherwise,
their appreciation of meritorious conduct by officers or
men in their commands.

The reason for secrecy is that, in case, the recom-
mendation should be disapproved by G.H.Q., the man
concerned would not even know he had been recom-
mended for the award, whereas, if he were told of it
beforehand, his disappointment would justly be bitter.

The division commander will, whenever circumstances
permit, make personal investigation of each individual
case of a man recommended for an award, and will re-
port the fact if he makes such a personal inquiry. Rec-
ommendations for awards which are not approved will
not be resubmitted.

In case recommendation is made for the award to more
than one individual, the recommendations are to be
placed and entered in the order of their award.

If any one recommended has already been awarded a
decoration citation will be stated, if known.

Once the recommendation has been approved, the divi-
sion commander, whose task by no means ends with the
forwarding of the recommendation, will make arrange-
ments for the ceremony of bestowing the awards.

Officers or soldiers who are reported prisoners of war
are not to be recommended for award in recognition of
acts of gallantry connected with their capture.

Presentation Ceremony

When practicable, the actual presentation of a Medal
of Honor, a Distinguished Service Cross or the Dis-
tinguished Service Medal will be accompanied by a formal
review.

The persons who receive the award will assemble on
the right of the line and between the music and the first
company. If practicable, at least one battalion will take
part in the review. The division commander will re-
ceive the review and personally present the award.

After the division commander has completed the re-
view of the troops (Par. 712, I.D.R.), the persons to be
decorated will be marched parallel to and 15 paces in
front of the line to a point opposite the reviewing officer.
They will then change direct to the right and, accompa-
nied by the colors, will advance in line to a point mid-
way between the division commander and the troops.

The march will be conducted by the senior brigade
commander. The band will play during the march. The
colors, including the color guard, will follow at ten paces
in center of the line of persons to be decorated and file
in a corresponding position.

Then the brigade commander will advance toward the
division commander and salute, reporting, "Sir, the per-
sons to be decorated are present." The division com-
mander will return the salute and will direct that the
command be presented.

The brigade commander will then bring the com-
mand, including the persons to be decorated and the
colors, to present arms. The music will then play "The
Star Spangled Banner," or if only field music is present,
"To the Colors" will be sounded. On the completion of
the music, the brigade commander will bring the troops
to order arms.

A staff officer of the division commander will read to
the division commander, accompanied by his staff, will then
advance to the line of persons to be decorated and after
making appropriate remarks will pin the decorations
awarded on the left breast of each person.

Upon completion of this ceremony, he will direct the
brigade commander to pass the troops in review and
will return to the position of the reviewing officer. The
persons who have been decorated will join the division
commander and form in line on his left. The colors will
go to the color company. The command will then be
marched in review and dismissed.

In all formations, persons to be decorated will be
formed in line in accordance with their rank from right
to left.

MOTHER'S LETTER TO BE DELIVERED BY END OF MONTH

Sunday's Harvest of Home
Messages Already on
Way to States

HOW MANY? LET HUN GUESS

Pens and Pencils Kept Busy from
Base Points to Front Line
Trenches

FRENCH HELP US CELEBRATE

Mess Tin Serves as Dugout Desk, Any-
thing Goes as Paper, But
Everyone Writes

The Mother's Letter celebration—THE
STARS AND STRIPES plan for having
every soldier write to his mother on
Mother's Day—was an overwhelming
success. It led to the greatest output of
extremely first-class mail matter the
A.E.F. has known. The flood of letters
home broke all records in American his-
tory, for never before have so many
Americans found themselves far from
the soil of their native land.

We may not give here the exact num-
ber of Mothers' Letters written on May
12, for that would be giving a certain
vastly interested party an exact idea of
how many Yanks there are in France.
You see, we all wrote.

But we can tell you that the volume
of Mothers' Letters posted last Sunday
and Monday (and they were still com-
ing in as late as Wednesday) more than
quadrupled the ordinary A.E.F. output
for the first two days of the week.

Those letters, some of them eloquent
and some of them awkward, but all of
them tender and true, are now on their
way home. According to the final esti-
mate by John Clark, chief postmaster
of the service in France, the greater
part of them—80 per cent—will have
been delivered, read for the third
time and shown to the lady next door
before the end of May.

Mess Tin Cover for Desk

They were written on strange bits of
paper, some of them, and in still
stranger places. This boy from Vermont
scribbled his in a dugout with the
cover of his mess tin as a desk; that
lanky Georgian scrawled his painfully
on the deck of a ship that rocked at
anchor in a French port, while the
Kansas City kid in the first surgical
ward had to dictate his to the much
affected sergeant in the next bed.

Some who wrote were doing something
they had done faithfully every week
since they first put on olive drab. Others
found in the promptings of Mother's
Day the reminder to write the letter
they had been meaning to write these
many, many weeks but which, thought-
less and engrossed in this new life of
ours, they had been letting slide and
slide. Some wrote who had drifted far-
ther from home than there are miles in
the Equator to measure the distance.

At one point a group of sailors was
silent in the throes of arduous composi-
tion and close by a weather beaten gub
stood watching them grinchily. As he
watched, his thoughts seemed to slip
forward and further from his grasp until
they reached the other side of the world.
A little later, some one saw him lounge
over toward the table, begin a sheepish
search for a sheet of paper and disap-
pear. After an hour, he was back with his
Mother's Letter, all ready for the
censor.

First in Six Years

"It's the first time I've written her
in six years," he said, just gruffly
enough so no one should think he was
setting soft. "I guess I won't let it go
quite so long after this."

Many of the letters were written
under difficulties—but they were writ-
ten. At one point, a convoy docked at 5
o'clock on the afternoon of Mother's
Day, but there were all the ceremonies
of medical inspection and what-not to
be gone through with before the thou-
sands of Yanks on board could put foot
on land. The wireless, however, had told
the approaching transients what cele-
bration was in progress on shore and
the first call through the megaphones
was for more paper.

"We're all writing Mothers' Letters,"
was the explanation, and they were
doing just that, on every inch of spare
the decks afforded. There was a great
scramble then to secure up more paper,
for in that case section all records had
been broken before noon, by which time
the orders were issued for Heaven's
sake to tear sheets in half and write
small.

Precious Supply of Paper

The newcomers who could not land in
time to join in the celebration were not
more inaccessible than the caution driv-
ers in the French service who are here,
there and everywhere these days. From
their headquarters, however, one truck
set forth bright and early Sunday morn-
ing, laden with writing paper, and as
the driver would pass a brother camion
on the way, he would hand out the
precious supply.

Even scattered Americans in various
regions of the French army—Poles
and Bohemians, too, fighting their peo-
ple's fight under the tricolor—wrote
their Mothers' Letters with the rest of

RANK NOT LOST IN SIDE TRIPS TO HOSPITALS

Story of Non-Coms Broken
Through Being Wounded
Sad, But Untrue

Some one with a keen sense of humor
has been circulating through the A.E.F.
a report that non-commissioned officers,
when once they had been restored to
fighting trim by the base hospital ex-
perts, would then be shipped to the
nearest replacement organization as pri-
vates.

According to this version of the re-
placement system, any non-com who was
seriously enough wounded to be sent
back to a base hospital would receive a
nice wound chevron all right, but he
would also be broken by way of reward.
This mishap was not described as a pen-
alty for being wounded, but simply as
an unfortunate but inevitable conse-
quence of the replacement system.

The only trouble with the story is
that it is not true.

It is true that when a soldier is ad-
mitted to a base hospital, he is auto-
matically dropped from the rolls of his
organization because it is impossible for
any one to say just when he will be
ready to go back again. But it is not
true that he loses his rank in the pro-
cess.

Forecasting such a development of the
system and to protect the non-com,
G.H.Q. cabled to Washington this recom-
mendation:

"Officers and soldiers admitted to hos-
pital or missing will be transferred to the
rolls of the replacement organization
which they will join upon being evacu-
ated from the hospital and from which
they will be sent as replacements to em-
bat and other organizations. Necessary
at times, therefore, in receiving officers
and soldiers from hospital and United
States into replacement organizations, to
have the replacement organizations over-
strength in officers, non-commissioned
officers and soldiers."

Continued on Page 2.

NEW TINTED HATCORD BLOSSOMS IN A. E. F.

War Correspondents Will
Wear Red and Green
Insignia

You know, of course, who those guys
are that wear Sam Browne belts—no,
wait a minute, Captain; that isn't dis-
respectful to officers at all—those guys
who wear Sam Browne belts, plain bel-
ts, collars without insignia and have the
Cornell armbands on their left arms.
Often as not the carry canes, too. Yes,
you guessed it, they're war correspond-
ents—that's what the "C" on their armbands
stands for—correspondents. And now,
added to their other fiery, verbal and
otherwise, they've got their own over-
seas caps.

Red and green they are—the red
above the green. Appropriate? It's the
latest word in appropriateness. For all
the war correspondents over here are
veterans, and widely read, and their
wide-readiness (the typewriter almost
slipped and made it "widely-read") has
supplanted any vestige of greenness
they may have had in times past when
they were cubs and so-and-so—oh,
make your own pun about it.

Red and green piping it is, in little
narrow stripes around the edges of the
headpiece. It is so fancy and looks so
well that it almost causes the corre-
spondents to lay off writing stories
about the overseas cap.

HUGE BROOKLYN DRYDOCK

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—A Brooklyn
company is building a huge 33,000 ton
drydock with a capacity able to take
care of the world's largest ships.

This is only one instance of the en-
largement of docking facilities in the
port of New York, and of the expan-
sion of the accommodations already
available to care for the increased
volume of traffic due to the war.

ANYBODY GOT A JOB?

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—The fol-
lowing notice stands a good show
of appearing in the Baltimore
papers:

SITUATIONS WANTED—MALE
MILLIONAIRE seeks position
with reliable firm. Any kind of
work. Best of references. Dun,
Bradstreet, etc. Address Must-
toil, P.O. Box 711.

For the Maryland compulsory work
law has caught its first millionaire.
He must get a job in a week or the
courts will wish one on him.

Other rich idlers who have
camouflaged themselves as Liberty
Bond salesmen are panic stricken
by the Government's decree that
the excuse will no longer work.

CALL FOR MILKMAIDS GOES OUT IN STATES

Woman's Land Army Ap-
peals for Overlaid
Volunteers

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—The Woman's
Land Army has sent out a hurry call
for milkmaids.

It appears that too many cows about
the United States threaten to go un-
milked. So the dairymaids are urged to
sign up and join up and draw up the
milksteaks and registration papers.

They won't be issued uniforms of
Watson dress, such as those in which
poor Marie Antoinette used to play at
dairymaid in the Petit Trianon at Ver-
sailles. Rather, they are warned before
hand that it's a job that calls not for
silk stockings and high-heeled, gilt slip-
pers, but for overalls and brogans.
Even with these limitations, it is ex-
pected that a large number of girls will
enlist, forsaking the old occupation of
extracting money from father for the
fascinating new one of extracting lac-
teal fluid from the cow.

"DOUGHNUTS & PIE" AMERICA'S SLOGAN

Salvation Army Seeks Fund
of \$2,000,000 to Aid
Tummyaches

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—"Doughnuts
and pie for ever there is now the na-
tional cry. It is the slogan of the
Salvation Army's drive for a fund of
\$2,000,000.

New York has subscribed \$100,000 of
its quarter million quota in the first
few days of the campaign. Thoughtful
men are shuddering at the probable
condition of our Army after eating that
two million dollars' worth of pastry.

(Note by Editor.—Those thoughtful
men had better stop shuddering and dig
down.)
There is nothing that leads so per-
nicious an existence in America just now
as the dollar bill. (Dollar, equivalent to
5.70 francs, A.E.F. currency.—Diction-
ary.) It is impossible to carry a single
dollar bill a single block in any direc-
tion between the Atlantic and Pacific
oceans. It will be caught on the next
corner by war savings stamps sellers.
Most of the sellers are after getting pretty
and attack in unison. The dollar gasps
and is no more.

Sparking of dollars, New York has
rushed its figure past \$12,000,000 in the
new thrift campaign.

SUCCEEDS SENATOR STONE

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—Senator Gil-
bert M. Hitchcock, of Omaha, Neb., has
been chosen chairman of the Senate
committee on Foreign Relations, to suc-
ceed the late Senator William Joel
Stone of Missouri.
Senator Hitchcock has, on several im-
portant occasions, been the Adminis-
tration's spokesman, notably during the
conduct of the Armed Neutrality Bill
and the War Resolution through the
Senate a year ago.

WHEAT FORECAST THRILLS NATION; WEATHER HELPS

America and Allies to Profit
from Tremendous Crop
Now in Prospect

By J. W. MULLER
American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS
AND STRIPES

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]
NEW YORK, May 16.—Prospects of
a splendid wheat crop are thrilling all
America. Government forecasts indi-
cate that the yield of winter wheat will
be 573,000,000 bushels, as against
418,000,000 last year. If the forecast
makes good, this will be the third
largest winter wheat crop ever harvest-
ed in this country. It means food—one
of the millions of war—for America
and her Allies.

Every one of the past few months has
seen weather which has improved the
condition of the crop, and with all cau-
tion it seems reasonable to say that
every chance now favors a tremendous
yield. Many experts predict confidently
that the crop will be 600,000,000 bushels.
The country's wheat acreage has been
enormously increased. The bumper crop
of 1914 was raised on 400,000 acres less
than this year's crop will be. The April
improvement is the greatest on record.
The biggest gain is in Kansas and
Nebraska where the indicated crop will
be 96,000,000 bushels, with every like-
lihood that good weather will make it a
hundred million bushels. Recent rains
apparently assure the crop's safety in
these States.

Spring wheat conditions, too, are ex-
cellent with good rains over most of
the spring wheat area. Newspaper re-
ports state that our total wheat crop
will be a billion bushels, and it must
be admitted that a cold, sober analysis
encourages the hope that the results
will not fall far short of that figure, if
at all.